



THOMAS G. NEWMAN,  
EDITOR.

Vol. XXVI July 12, 1890. No. 28.

## EDITORIAL BUZZINGS.

Plenty of roses in summer,  
Plenty of flowers in June,  
Plenty of sweet-bird music  
That never is out of tune,  
After so deep a gladness,  
When our hearts are tenderly stirred,  
No wonder we dread the winter,  
With never a flower or bird.

In our next issue we shall publish the list of premiums offered at the Detroit Fair and Exposition, and the rules governing the same. It is crowded out of this issue.

The great Inter-State Fair will be held at Trenton, N. J., on Sept. 29 and 30, Oct. 1, 2 and 3. For premium lists address Jno. Guild Muirheid, Sec., Trenton, N. J.

**Poisoning Bees.**—In the Montreal Witness of June 26, 1890, a correspondent asks:

Can the law keep anybody from showering fruit trees with Paris green on account of honey bees, and is there any law for honey-bees?

The editor of the Agricultural Department, the Rev. W. F. Clarke, very properly answers him thus:

Surely no one would be so inconsiderate and foolish as to spray fruit blossoms with Paris green for the purpose of killing bees. These useful insects do no harm to fruit trees, but rather good, mixing the pollen, and so helping to fertilize the blooms. There is no law to prevent such an act, but people ought to have enough knowledge and common sense to abstain from doing anything of the kind. There is a law regulating the ownership of stray swarms, and an act has recently been passed in Ontario to prevent the spread of foul brood, but I think that is all the legislation we have respecting honey-bees.

The Detroit Fair and Exposition promises to be very successful this year. It will be held from Aug. 26 to Sept. 5. The management has just issued a circular from which we extract the following of interest to bee-keepers:

The Apiary Department expects to make the finest display ever seen in America. The most noted bee-keepers of Canada and the United States are invited to compete, not only with their choicest colonies, but also with the finest honey and wax in all shapes,—hives, combs, implements, and everything pertaining to the business, for which the largest cash premiums are offered, and the best facilities for display are prepared.

Premium Lists may be obtained by addressing the Secretary, Geo. M. Savage, Detroit, Mich.

A letter just received from our friend, H. D. Cutting, who has kindly consented to make provision for the accommodation of the bee keepers at hotels, etc., reads thus:

I was in Detroit two days last week, and have all arrangements made for bee keepers who may attend the Exposition. I have secured a good location. Applications for space begin to come in, and everything bids fair for a good exhibit.

We Appreciate the following from *Gleanings* of June 15. It is an editorial on the matter of good feeling now existing between the apicultural editors of America. Bro. Root says:

As Dr. C. C. Miller said recently, it seems as if the millennium of brotherly feeling and good-will were now among apiculturists. The AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL is always on time. We never saw one copy in all the hundreds that have come to us that was poorly printed—over-inked or under-inked. They are always a model in typographical appearance. We are in a position to know that it is not an easy thing to be out on time, nor to make every number of a periodical an exact duplicate of the others, typographically.

But few pursuits can show a better class of periodical literature than apiarists can boast of. Not only is *Gleanings* a marvel of neatness, but the *Review*, the *Apiculturist*, the *Guide*, and the *Advance* vie with each other in the excellence of the matter presented to their readers, and also in clothing themselves in as attractive a garb of neatness as the printer's art can make them. The AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL wishes them all the prosperity which they deserve, and hopes that concord and good fellowship may mark every step in their onward course.

How different all this is to what existed 17 years ago, when the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL came into the hands of the present editor. The few papers then in existence were very poorly printed, and the price-lists of supply dealers were a disgrace to the art of printing (as we stated editorially more than 15 years ago); then the reading columns of all the periodicals were filled with bitter criticisms and personal bickerings, making it very undesirable to readers generally. Now, all is peace and concord.

Topics upon which we differ are discussed in a pleasant way, and progress and improvement keep abreast of the times, while strife and vain glory are relegated to the rear. May such good feeling long continue.

**To Keep a Promise** should be a sacred duty—but there are times when such cannot be done, no matter what effort is put forth to accomplish it. Our Supply Department has been a notable example of this, in the past 2 or 3 weeks. The Business Manager (A.H.N.), relying upon a continuance of shipments from manufacturers of sections, frames, smokers, etc., in about the usual quantities, every day two—promised such things to our customers at such times as he felt sure of being able to send them. But, unexpectedly, some of them ceased to send us anything for 10 days (though implored to do so every day) claiming that they were obliged to fill other orders, to try to redeem their promises made to others, broken by the "unprecedented rush," though they ran day and night. This left us powerless to ship goods we had promised in good faith—and the just rebukes of our patrons almost drove us to desperation! Several small shipments were received, but orders came faster than the goods. This week, we are relieved by several unexpected offers of goods (to help us out) and by the time this JOURNAL is in the hands of its readers, we hope to have caught up to within a day or two—and in the future be able to fill all orders promptly.

We hope that this explanation will prevent our suffering patrons from judging us too severely on our "broken promises."

The worry has caused both members of the firm great annoyance, and bad as some of our patrons must feel, we have suffered in mind and body as much as any one.

We are informed by one who knows, that the honey-house of N. N. Betsinger was not destroyed, as stated last week on page 443. It was, we presume, an exaggeration of reporters. We saw it in the *Chicago Herald*, the *New York Sun*, and in another paper, the name of which we do not remember. We now have full reports of the trial of Mr. Betsinger in the *Syracuse Courier* and *Marcellus Observer*.

We have no desire to misstate this unfortunate matter in any respect. The jury only took 20 minutes to decide upon a verdict of "guilty." Though that does not prove it beyond controversy, still it shows that very strong proofs must have been offered to them. It is but just to say, however, that Mr. Betsinger protests that he is innocent and that a conspiracy was formed against him.

He was defended by Lawrence T. Jones, one of the cleverest lawyers in the State. An appeal is made to the general term of the court for a new trial. If he is innocent, we hope it will be so proven—that the right may prevail.

## GLEAMS OF NEWS.

**Patents** are generally the thing "most to be desired" by young bee-keepers. They think they must invent something in order to be brought to public notice. They never dream of reading up the literature or history of bee-keeping; but, instead, they will conceive of something different from what they have been using—imagine that it is new, and then foolishly spend their money to get a patent on some discarded implement or device; or, perchance, on something that may be in general use, but is not known to them. We commend to such the pithy remarks of friend A. G. Hill, in the last issue of the *Bee-Keepers' Guide*:

Mr. Leonard Hopkins, of Maxwell, Indiana, has secured a patent on a supposed new bee-hive, May 19, 1890. The first claim is on a kerf in the top-bar, and also in the upper end of the side-bars for the purpose of securing a starter. This is a very common thing, and a great many have built frames in this manner for a number of years. The dovetailed Simplicity frames of wood are all made in this manner. The second claim is on a case for sections. The top case is clamped down to the lower case by metal hooks and eyes, a set at each corner. This makes it necessary to have three honey-boards, one at the top, one at the bottom, and one at the center, besides the sections are clamped sidewise in the usual manner with a wedge, and a glass side. The feature is new because we do not think any one ever before saw the necessity for clamping the upper tier of sections to the lower ones, and we fail to see it now. The two cases are not clamped or fastened to the body, nor is the cap secured in any such manner, so the hive cannot be designed to overcome the effects of wind storms. The third claim is an endeavor to tighten the grip on the second. Now it would seem better for those who get the patent fever on bee-hives, to first spend four or five dollars for bee periodicals and books treating on the subject, as it is possible that a better knowledge of what has been done, and what others have done, might be as good a cure as \$75 spent for a patent for something already in use or not worth using.

**That Pioneer Apiarist**, Mr. O. W. Childs, died at Los Angeles, Calif., on April 17, 1890. About 40 years ago he left Vermont and located in Southern California. Mr. C. N. Wilson, in the *Rural Californian*, gives this biographical sketch of Mr. Childs:

He was very largely engaged in the nursery business for many years, and thousands of citrus as well as deciduous trees that now form extensive orchards in California, were his product. His palatial home on Main street, Los Angeles, surrounded as it is by an almost endless variety of fruit and ornamental trees, together with a superb collection of flowers, are all living witnesses of his singularly good taste and refinement.

To him alone belongs the honor of bringing to Southern California the first hives of honey-bees. He purchased some in San Francisco, and brought them to Los Angeles, in March, 1855, setting them up in his nursery on Main street, about opposite

to where he built his late splendid residence. The bees did well, and Mr. Childs sold his comb honey as fast as it was produced, for one dollar per pound. He remained in the business for a number of years, conducting it successfully, introducing everything that tended to improvement in the apiary. He manufactured the first honey extractor ever used in this locality, and introduced the first Italian queen-bees, paying as high as \$100 each for them.

He has left as marks of his business ability the structures he caused to be erected, notably his late residence, the Grand Opera House, and the fine building on the corner of Temple and New High streets. But the bee-keeping fraternity will long remember him as the amiable gentleman who brought the first honey-bees to Southern California, and for many years carried on successfully the first apiary established in this part of the United States.

The Indiana State Fair will be held at Indianapolis from Sept. 22 to 27, 1890. In Class 38, "Bees and Honey," we find the following in the premium list:

	1st.	2d.
Queen-bee .....	\$3	\$2
Comb honey, not less than 10 lbs., quality and manner of putting up for market to be considered...	5	3
Extracted honey, not less than 20 lbs., quality and manner of putting up for market considered...	5	3
Display of honey, the product of one apiary of the present year...	15	10
Display of wax, not less than 10 lbs. ....	2	1
Display of apian supplies.....	5	3
Apparatus for the manufacture of comb foundation, to include all necessary articles for its manufacture, the owner to manufacture comb during time of exhibit	5	3
Comb foundation for use in brood-nest .....	2	1
Comb foundation for surplus honey	2	1
Honey extractor .....	2	1
Wax extractor .....	2	1
Honey vinegar, not less than one gallon .....	2	1
Section-box for surplus honey.....	2	1
Display of wholesale packages and crates for honey.....	2	1
Display of retail packages for extracted honey .....	2	1
Collection of honey-plants, not less than 6 varieties, properly labeled in order, with date of bloom.....	10	5

**Barrels of Honey**, it is said, were recently found in a bluff of ground in Franklin, Ky., and a leading Chicago daily newspaper gave the following account of it, and comments thereon, in its editorial columns, on July 2, 1890:

The industry of the little busy bee seems to lose force as a moral example when the profitless and unnecessary toil of a lot of Kentucky bees is considered. The home of these bees was a bluff 170 feet high near Franklin, and for a number of years they have been seen to emerge from a fissure near its top. It recently occurred to a farmer that the bluff might be full of honey and, in company with a number of neighbors, he undertook to find out. A hole bored in the bluff completely corroborated his theory. It disclosed one of the most remarkable finds of honey ever discovered. Everybody for miles around has filled a barrel or two, and the farmers are supplied with honey enough to spread on their biscuits and sweeten their beverages for years

to come. But the industry for which bees are lauded by the novelists seems to have been misdirected in this case. They produced an enormous surplus of honey which they could not use themselves, and which they intended nobody else should use—only to be robbed of it in the end.

There are many stories afloat concerning lakes of honey, etc., being found, which hardly ever materialize when they are sought. We do not give much credence to such newspaper yarns, though there may be a little truth in some of them.

The statement has been widely circulated, probably by parties who wished it might be true, that John B. Alden, Publisher, of New York, Chicago, and Atlanta, had joined the "Book Trust," which is trying to monopolize the publication of standard books, and to increase prices from 25 to 100 per cent. Mr. Alden sends us word that he has not joined the Trust, and there is not and never has been any probability of his joining it. The "Literary Revolution" which has accomplished such wonderful results within the past ten years, in popularizing literature of the highest character (no "trash" ever finds place on his list), still goes on. Instead of increasing prices, large reduction in prices has recently been made, particularly on copyright books by American authors. A catalogue (96 pages) sent free to any applicant.

One of the latest issues from his press is "Stanley's Emin Pasha Expedition," by Wauters, a very handsome, large-type, illustrated volume, reduced in price from \$2.00 to 50 cents. This work tells a most interesting and complete story, beginning with the conquest of the Soudan, and continuing through years of African exploration, the revolt of the Mahdi, the siege of Khartoum, with the death of Gordon, the return of Dr. Junker, besides the story of Stanley's own adventures, including his successful Relief Expedition. It is one of the best and most complete works issued upon the subject. Send Alden your address, and you will receive his 96-page catalogue, and from time to time specimen pages of his new publications. John B. Alden, Publisher, 393 Pearl street, New York, also Chicago and Atlanta.

#### Doolittle on Queen-Rearing.

Queens can be reared in the upper stories of hives used for extracted honey, where a queen-excluding honey-board is used, which are as good, if not superior, to Queens reared by any other process; and that, too, while the old Queen is doing duty below, just the same as though Queens were not being reared above. This is a fact, though it is not generally known.

If you desire to know how this can be done—how to have Queens fertilized in upper stories, while the old Queen is laying below—how you may safely introduce any Queen, at any time of the year when bees may fly—all about the different races of bees—all about shipping Queens, queen-cages, candy for queen-cages, etc.—all about forming nuclei, multiplying or uniting bees, or weak colonies, etc.; or, in fact everything about the queen-business which you may want to know, send for "Doolittle's Scientific Queen-Rearing," a book of 170 pages, which is nicely bound in cloth, and as interesting as a story. Price, \$1.00.



## QUERIES REPLIES.

### The Amount of Dead Bees in Cellar-Wintering.

Written for the American Bee Journal

QUERY 716.—What amount of dead bees, consistent with fair wintering, might be found in a cellar where 100 colonies had been for four months?—Wisconsin.

Two bushels.—EUGENE SECOR.

Two bushels.—MRS. L. HARRISON.

Perhaps a bushel.—C. C. MILLER.

Half a bushel or more.—DADANT & SON.

A bushel or two.—WILL M. BARNUM.

One or two bushels.—G. L. TINKER.

From a peck to one bushel.—G. M. DOOLITTLE.

From one to two gallons.—J. M. HAMBAUGH.

Never having wintered bees in a cellar, I do not know.—M. MAHIN.

A bushel would be a liberal allowance.—C. H. DIBBEN.

It will vary from 2 gills to 4 quarts. Neither extreme need cause alarm.—A. J. COOK.

From one to two bushels, if the bottom-boards are off, so that the dead bees are all outside the hives.—R. L. TAYLOR.

There are so many different conditions to be taken into consideration, that it would be impossible to say just how many.—H. D. CUTTING.

Who can tell? In some cellars more would be found than in others. This question reminds me of the "old chestnut," viz: "How big is a piece of chalk?"—J. E. POND.

Sometimes more and sometimes less. I have known bees to winter first-rate where there were great quantities of dead bees upon the bottom of the repository, and the same when only a few were to be seen.—JAMES HEDDON.

It must depend a great deal upon the relative number of the old bees in each hive, as to what proportion of the colony will survive until spring. I believe that half of all the bees in my apiary die before spring opens, and yet, with the increase of young bees, gives me good, strong colonies to commence with.—G. W. DEMAREE.

A bushel, more or less, according to the age of the bees when placed in winter quarters.—THE EDITOR.

**Handling Bees.**—This is the title of a nice pamphlet containing 28 pages and a cover, published by Chas. Dadant & Son. It is a chapter from their book, *Langstroth Revised*, and is an excellent thing for beginners. Price, 8 cts. For sale at this office.

**A Nice Pocket Dictionary** will be given as a premium for only one new subscriber to this JOURNAL, with \$1.00. It is a splendid little Dictionary—just the right size for the pocket. Every school boy and school girl, as well as everybody else, should own and use it. Price, 25 cents.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

### HONEY.

#### How to Work to Get the Best Results.

Written for the American Rural Home  
BY G. M. DOOLITTLE.

If we have been successful in working our bees for brood, so as to obtain a multitude of bees in the right time for the honey harvest, we are ready for the next step in working for honey.

This will be putting on the honey sections, or rather a part of them, for I contend that it is poor policy to give any colony (unless it is in the case of two prime swarms being hived together), all of the surplus room at the start, as such tends to discourage them, as they do not as yet have a sufficient amount of bees to take possession of so large amount of room. I generally give surplus room amounting to from 20 to 25 pounds at the start, and as the bees take possession of it, give as much more room, and finally the full capacity of the hive (60 pounds), when the force of bees increases so as to want it. However, as a rule, the swarming season arrives before all the sections are put on, when no more sections are added until the old colony gets a laying queen.

Always, in managing bees, the apiarist should have an eye on the future as regards his honey harvest, until the harvest arrives, and when it arrives, then bend his every energy for the time which is present. For instance, my honey harvest comes from basswood, or during the last half of July, so all my operations previous to this time, must be in reference to this harvest, or all my efforts will result only in failure.

Now the time of the bees' swarming has a very important bearing on what I get as cash out of the apiary. If they swarm too early, they defeat my plans, and if too late it is nearly as bad. The thing is to have them all swarm at the right time, which is brought about as nearly as it may be, by keeping back the strongest and building up the weakest. This is done by drawing bees and brood from the strong and giving to those which are weak, until all are brought to a uniform strength at the desired time of swarming.

But says one: "When is the proper time for increase?" to which I reply: "About 15 to 20 days before the main honey harvest." Why? Because this gives time for the young queen in the old colony to become fertilized, and

not enough time to the swarm to get so strong as to desire to swarm again. Remember, I am talking exclusively of producing comb honey, for the producing of extracted honey requires a very different mode of procedure, in my opinion, and I have extracted as high as 566 pounds from a single colony in one season.

Nothing can detract more from our crop of comb honey than to have our bees get the swarming fever during the honey harvest, unless it is having them so weak at the time that they are of little or no value.

In the forepart of June one year I was accosted by a neighbor saying, "Have your bees swarmed yet?" No, said I, nor do I expect them to generally for the next three weeks. "Well," says he, "I guess you won't get much from them, for Mr. S. is having lots of swarms." All right, says I, I shall be glad to have Mr. S. get a good crop of honey.

Well, the result was, during the height of the honey harvest Mr. S. was having lots of swarms, which he was putting back, cutting out queen-cells, etc., in the vain hope to get them to work, while only now and then a swarm was issuing in my apiary, with the sections being filled as if by magic.

I have often said the getting of the bees in the right time for the honey harvest counts more toward cash and fun in the apiary than anything else, which is true, but next to this is the managing of those bees, so that they will be only bent on storing honey during the honey harvest; for the lack of either gives the apiarist only small returns for his labor among the bees.

After doing all in my power to get all swarms out between June 25 and July 4, I frequently get some as early as June 20, and as late as July 15. Those issuing before July 4 are hived on a new stand, and a part of the sections are put on two or three days after hiving, while the date of swarming is put on each hive, thus: "N. S. 6-22" being put on the swarm, and "Sw'd. 6-22" on the old hive, if that is the date.

On the evening of the eighth day I listen for a moment or two at the side of the old hive, and if swarming has been done "according to rule," I hear the young queen piping, when I know a young queen has hatched, and an after-swarm will be the result if it is not stopped. If no piping is heard, I do not listen again until the evening of the 13th day, for the next rule is that the colony swarmed upon an egg or small larva being in the queen-cell, which allows the queen to hatch from the 12th to the 16th day after swarming. If no piping is heard by the

17th day, no swarm need be expected. When it is heard, which will be in nineteen cases out of twenty, on the 8th day, I go early in the morning and take every frame out of the hive, shaking the bees off of each (in front) as I take them out and return them again, so I shall be sure and not miss a queen-cell, but cut all off, for we know that a queen has hatched.

This is a sure plan, while I have found by experience that none of the other plans given are sure of the prevention of after-swarms. The colony is now boxed to its full capacity, and if the queen gets to laying all right, it will produce a larger amount of comb honey than the swarm will. In 21 days from the time the swarm is hived, young bees will begin to hatch so as to reinforce that colony, so on the 23rd to the 25th day after hiving, I give the full capacity of surplus room to this also, which tends to keep them from having a desire to swarm again. In this way the very best results are secured, the same being what I have practiced successfully for years.

Borodino, N. Y.

## BUSINESS.

### Pertinent Suggestions About Ordering Bee-Supplies.

*Written for the American Bee Journal*  
BY A SUPPLY DEALER.

I have been thinking of the fact that bee-keepers are compelled to enter the field of commerce. They have to sell their honey and buy supplies, and very many do so by correspondence. Would it not be a good plan if we should learn something of each other through the medium of the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL, concerning commercial business as well as honey-producing?

I am a supply dealer as well as a honey-producer, and during the last two months my mail has averaged about forty letters per day. Let us now imagine my clerk at the desk, opening these forty letters, answering them, copying orders, etc.—a work which I am compelled to hire done, as I cannot always find the time to do it and superintend three apiaries and as much other business of a different character.

With an opener the clerk opens the forty letters; the first one contains an order for 2,000 sections, 15 pounds of comb foundation, etc. The letter is short, plainly written, especially the address, the shipping-point, and the name of the remitter ordering the goods. He tells how to ship (by freight or express), and if his post-office is different from his shipping

address, he states so plainly in a few words on a separate line. When she finds nothing on that sheet, except that plain, complete and comprehensive order, she draws a sigh of relief; and, when looking into the envelope, finds no other sheets, no talk about the bee-keeper's bees, nor his flora, nor chickens, nor his admiration for some of our theories or goods, she draws another and still longer and pleasanter breath. The order is soon made out, and always without an error.

The next letter is withdrawn from the envelope, and a sheet of note-paper is written all over the four pages with a lead pencil, and reads something like this:

Inclosed please find \$6.00 for one of your bee-hives. I have read about them, and I think they are the best hive there is. I have got your circular, but I do not know as I know just what I get for the \$6.00. Send me the best you can, because I am a prominent bee-keeper here, and a good many people will come to look at the hive. I had a big swarm yesterday. My bees are mostly pure Italians. I think the pure bees are the best. Oh, yes, I add another 30 cents for one of your bee-veils, and if you can send a Parker foundation fastener by mail, send it right away, and I will remit. My little boy, 12 years old, loves bees, but he got awfully stung yesterday. Send directions how to use the hive, and if you can send two hives in the flat instead of one made up, you can do that. Direct the same as you did before. There are a good many other things I would like to write you about, but I am in a hurry, so good-by. Your friend—who loves the honey-bees,  
JOHANNES FIKES.

Now this friend may "love the honey-bees," and he may be a good "friend," although it is the first time we ever knew that we had such a friend, or that such a man as Mr. Fikes lived, but the clerk is not in love with his letter at all. She would about as soon open a dynamite bomb as such a letter.

Many dealers have suggested that all orders for goods should be on a separate sheet from all talk, and everything else not pertaining to business. I desire to carry this further still; I want to suggest to every bee-keeper that when making an order for goods, put nothing else in the same letter. Let the envelope carry nothing else. If you want to write to some man who is a central figure in the apicultural world, send him your talk in another envelope, at another time, and under another stamp; and when you do not receive any answer to it, wisely and pleasantly come to the conclusion that he did not have time to answer it.

What do you think of a bee-keeper who will ask a dozen questions and not even enclose a stamp or return envelope? No better nor more honest rule could be made among bee-keepers than to enclose ten cents in stamps for every question asked; then a lot of useless questions would not be asked,

and those wisely selected and wisely answered, would be worth ten times ten cents per question to the seeker after knowledge.

A good business man, having a large trade, will not depend upon his memory for anything—not for five minutes; so those ordering goods should remember that if their order is the forty-ninth one of the season, it should be just as full and clear as though it was the first time the dealer had ever heard of him. Do not take it for granted that the recipient of your letters remembers anything about any former transaction—make your reference full and complete. Do not tell half of the story and think he remembers the other half. Tell it all. Do not write and say: "I have not received the goods I ordered from you yet. Did you ship them according to my directions, and if so, why are they not here?" Write in this way:

On or about June 4 I ordered 2,000 sections of you, remitting \$8.00 for the same by way of post-office order on the Fairhaven post-office. I asked you to ship to my address by freight to Fairhaven, and as twenty days have elapsed, and the goods do not arrive, I would suggest that you have a tracer sent after them.

Then comes a letter from Peter Funk, without any money in it, suggesting that we send him one of our hives for trial, and if it suits him he will pay for it, and besides all this, he is such a central figure and "mowing such a wide swath" in the apicultural line for miles around, that it will be largely to our advantage to ship him a hive. This is an easy kind of letter to dispose of, and greatly facilitates getting through with the day's work. It is answered with just one motion, and that consigns it to the waste-basket.

Let us do business on business principles, and let all remember that the dealer in bee-keepers' supplies who has any considerable trade, has hundreds of others besides ourselves to deal with. That if we bungle our letters with side-talk, it makes him lots of extra work, and subjects ourselves to danger of loss from mistakes. Besides that, there are very few dealers in the busy season, ready to consider anything in any one's letters except the order itself. Can we not have an improvement in this direction?

[We give place to the above because there are many good suggestions in it, which thousands of apiarists should ponder over. The name of the writer is withheld, so that it shall not give offense, or seem to be a personal complaint—instead of suggestions for the general good. We are glad to say that there has been a very marked im-



provement in the writing of orders during the past few years, and we hope that the foregoing article will stimulate to greater precision and more business tact in letter-writing.—Ed.]

## SELLING HONEY.

### How to Put Honey Upon the Market.

Read at the Ohio State Convention  
BY H. F. MOORE.

Marketing our honey is one of the most important parts of the business; for if we fail in this, it is useless for us to raise large crops of honey, or to use great care in its production. Very little need be said about comb honey to the representative body of apiarists, and one might almost say upon any branch of practical bee-keeping. For we have here assembled the most enterprising and wide-awake of our Ohio honey-producers.

Experience has shown, time and again, that grocery men and dealers pass by any honey that is daubed on the outside, or shows any broken comb through the glass. Yet these things will always continue to be, so long as freight men handle honey. The only solution that seems near by is to encase each section in a little pasteboard box made expressly for the purpose. Take a walk with me through the commission houses of any of our large cities, and you will see large quantities of comb honey marketed in that shape, and also that the breakage in necessary handling is much less. Their cost is trifling—less than one-half a cent each by the thousand.

I think if the bee-men who took his honey from the hive and boxed and shipped whole crates without even taking them apart to see if all were nicely filled, or scraping the sections to make them more attractive, could have heard the conversation between the commission merchant and the possible purchaser, and heard his honey offered at three and four cents per pound less than nice honey in glassed cases, he would have realized the object lesson more fully than by reading a whole volume of bee-literature.

Beauty in appearance is as important as excellence in flavor to the successful apiarist. If beauty and neatness are necessary with comb honey, they are no less important to extracted honey. As to the name extracted, I am not sure it is the best available. For we must take into account the effect on the ear of the prospective purchaser. On one occasion the writer told a gentleman he had some nice extracted honey for sale,

and was met with the reply—that he wanted the *pure* article. Now many German people say “clear” honey, and this may be an improvement on the old word.

Many people are met who say “we never eat strained honey.” On being asked to explain, they say it “tastes like molasses.” But when a fine, heavy sample of white clover extracted honey is shown them, the instant decision is—“that is fine,” leading to the inevitable conclusion that some of our bee-men in sending clear honey to market, have not always been careful to select well ripened white clover honey. For as a matter of fact, one hundred pounds of thin, strong, extracted honey will do any market more harm than one thousand pounds of an equal grade of comb. Why? Because everybody supposes that comb honey is made by the bees, but the extracted honey partly or wholly by men, and any imperfection in the same is immediately charged to the human agency, whether justly or not. To be plain, the general public is sure that lots of manufactured honey is on market. One gentleman in particular said thousands of pounds of *made* honey were sold every year in the cities.

When these people are asked to explain more particularly, they usually admit they guessed about it, and when the writer has explained about the different causes that make honey bad or unpleasant, they usually say—“well, may be that is so.” No greater curse to the bee-keepers of our land can be imagined than the much-written-about *wily* lie.

The question to any one who sells honey is—“Do you rear bees?” and the assurance which we give them, that we have 150 colonies ourselves, makes it all right, and is a voucher for the quality of the honey. Occasionally men are met who will say, “Why, honey is made now-a-days so like the real, that you cannot tell it by smell or taste.” Such a man is only worthy to be classed with one who does not believe he has a heart, nor that George Washington or Napoleon ever lived, and is consequently beyond reach of all argument. I do not refer to such, but to those great numbers of people who love honey, but having read in the paper that somewhere out West—perhaps Chicago—even comb honey is made, they are afraid to purchase anywhere for fear of getting some of that mixed stuff.

I am heart and soul with any movement looking toward the severe punishment of any one who adulterates clear honey, and thereby injures and disgraces those who follow a most honorable pursuit.

In marketing extracted honey, glass receptacles are evidently best. Those holding one-half pound, three-quarters, and a pound are preferred by the trade, as they can be sold for a small amount of money. Large quantities of honey are sold each year to the wholesale and retail druggists. Most druggists prefer to furnish their own receptacles, but if not, the quart Mason glass jar presents marked advantages on account of its holding just three pounds of good, thick honey. When crystallized it is far easier to melt a quart than a 60-pound can.

There is another method of retailing clear honey which promises to lead in the quantity that can be sold in a given time and territory. Take a quart Mason jar half full of white clover honey, and a nice one-pound section, if you please, and call at the first house on any street of any town you may mention. Rap or ring gently, and on seeing a member of the family, look pleasant and say, “Good morning” pleasantly, and without more ado say, “Don’t you wish me to bring you some nice white clover honey this day next week?”

By this mode of address you surprise and please them; surprise them because in most cases they never saw a sample of honey brought to their door, and an order solicited; please them, because by your words you lift yourself clear from the dreaded agent or peddler. Then in a few words explain your price, size of package and day of delivery, at the same time inducing the possible customer to get a teaspoon and taste the inviting and attractive sweet. Each family furnishing a clean tea-spoon for themselves, even the most particular have no objections. On the day appointed you take your load of honey and little book in which is recorded the name of street and family, and number of house, and deliver the honey to each family that has ordered.

These days for delivering occur say once a week, and are on different streets each time. In four or five months, or sooner, perhaps, give them all a call again, and your old customers will greet you with, “O, you’re the honey man, ain’t you? Why did you not come around before?” If you happen to have a big pocket in your coat, and put in a few cakes of nice beeswax—which your better half has kindly moulded for you in the family gem-pans—so much the better, for many families use beeswax to make the irons smooth, and in sewing carpet, and to make a salve. Also many a dentist will be glad of your visit, for a large amount of wax is used in mouth-fitting yearly.

Now in prosecuting this business, one must not think it is devoid of unpleasant features; such as some family mistaking you for a peddler and slamming the door quickly in your face; do not get mad, but rather pity the family who has thus been deprived of nature's choicest luxury.

Rockaway, Ohio.

## MISSOURI.

### The Season and Condition of the Bees—Queens.

*Written for the American Bee Journal*

BY J. A. MARSH.

I started this season with 13 colonies, one having absconded. Soft maple yielded honey on Christmas day. One colony built about 24 square inches of comb during January, in which they put the finest maple syrup I ever tasted. They did their own boiling (as there was none being boiled within 2½ miles), it being too clear for the work of man; also I had no hand in it, except tapping the trees. Did they "digest" the water out?

Fruit-bloom was scarce; Gill-over-the-ground short on account of floods, but red-bud, black gum, buckeye and honey-locust were good. Then white clover was fine for about two weeks. Horse-mint and sumac gave some surplus, when basswood, of which there are but few trees in this locality, was very fine. My experience concerning the best honey weather is the same as last year, that is, wet and cool—not clear, hot and dry, as most bee-men seem to think—at least in this locality.

We have had very little cool, wet weather here, also very little surplus honey. I have had 15 swarms, the first on May 22, earlier than any of my neighbors by two weeks. Swarming has been backward and very moderate.

#### QUEEN-CELLS—JUST-HATCHED QUEENS.

On page 430, Mr. Doolittle gives good advice about queen-cells and just-hatched queens, but if he will divide when the colony is nearly ready to swarm, and honey coming in freely, he may place sealed or unsealed queen-cells between the combs of a full colony or a two-frame nucleus immediately after removing the old queen from the full colony, or after forming nuclei from colonies having queens, without fear of loss.

I introduced in May, when all my colonies seemed bent on swarming, and when honey was coming in freely, seven queen-cells from an Italian colony; two were introduced to full colonies, and five to two frame nuclei.

All except one hatched—the one which failed was chilled, as there were too few bees on the combs to protect it and the brood; however, they fastened it to both combs, and did elaborate work all over it until it appeared to have been built there. I cut it out three days after it should have hatched, and found it dead. All my bees except two were blacks, with a possible trace of Italian blood, and having black queens, knowing my introduced cells would hatch before others which they might build, I paid attention only to those introduced until finding them hatched would hunt them up, and I know they were Italian, and that they came from the introduced cells. Possibly I should add that these cells were not all ripe—one of them was not sealed.

I have had cells torn down, but under different conditions from this lot, which was the extent of my efforts this year.

I will ask Mr. Doolittle to be considerate enough to try it when he finds the conditions favorable. I do not want the money he offers, but if he were my near neighbor, I should certainly undertake to demonstrate these facts with his bees.

My bees have now nothing except winter-grape bloom to gather honey from, and in only mornings and evenings. The weather is very dry, the mercury being at 104° in the shade on June 26.

Scotia, Mo., June 28, 1890.

## BEE-TALK.

### Heat for Hatching—Stimulative Feeding, Robbing, Etc.

*Written for the Massachusetts Ploughman*  
BY L. F. ABBOTT.

We should keep in mind the fact that the eggs of a queen-bee are developed by heat just as are the eggs of a fowl. Instinct leads the queen to restrict her operations of egg-laying according to the number and facility of workers to maintain the proper degree of heat to develop the eggs. With much waste room in the hive when put upon the summer stand during the cool days of April, but narrow circles of brood will fill the center of these on three combs until such time as sufficient heat by increase of numbers of bees and outside temperature, will warrant the queen to extend her operations.

Heretofore, we have made provision for ventilation. This is unnecessary now—in fact, just the opposite course should be pursued, and every crevice should be closed, and the quilts tucked down around the frames with other material added, so that none of the

heat generated by the climate can escape.

These conditions may be maintained with the differences of adding, about the 10th of May (perhaps under some conditions, earlier and again late) frames containing empty combs, or better, containing some capped honey, which should be uncapped. When eggs and brood are found on both sides of all the combs, the center ones being pretty well filled, and a third of the space occupied in the center frames, it is well enough to add one or two empty combs, according to the strength of the colony.

I should not recommend to the novice under all conditions, to place the empty combs in the center of the brood-nest, as is frequently advised. If the condition of the brood is as given above, and the outside frames only partially filled with brood and eggs, these (if the hive seems to be quite well crowded with bees) might be placed in the center of the brood-nest, and the empty combs placed each side of these. A colony increasing so the queen has pretty fully occupied four frames, will soon widen out her operations, and when fruit-bloom arrives, find herself looking carefully over eight or more frames; but much depends upon the season.

#### FEEDING BEES IN THE SPRING.

I am frequently asked if I favor stimulative feeding in spring. I do under certain conditions. Strong colonies will be benefitted by the practice if judiciously fed, while weak ones will be injured. I feel pretty confident that it is harmful to feed any colony when the weather is good—part of the time it is so cold that the bees cannot fly out pretty much all the day. This would not apply with the same force to the method of uncapping sealed honey within the body of the hive, but applies more particularly to feeding liquid honey or syrup from the top of the frames.

Stimulative feeding in April in this latitude has done more harm than good. Last year many days in the first part of May were so cold that bees could not leave their hives, only for a short time in the middle of the day. It is such weather when brood-rearing is under way, which retards the increase of workers, thousands from all the hives becoming chilled to death.

A plan I have found convenient for feeding, and answering another purpose, is to have a feeder made with compartments; mine have five of these, and the feeder is as long as the frames and wide enough to cover seven frames. Spaces are left so that the bees can come up to each of these



divisions—even one or all can be used, as is needful. These feeders are about 2½ inches high, and will hold, when filled, 10 or 12 pounds of syrup—convenient in fall feeding—or as small amount as one chooses may be placed in a single part. Bee-space is left under the whole bottom of the feeder, so that the bees can pass freely over the tops of the frames beneath the feeder; thus taking the place of Hill's device to that end.

I place one of these feeders upon each hive when putting in order for winter in the fall, and any colonies which seem to be likely to be short of stores, may have a few pounds of sugar syrup put into the central apartments of the feeder, and the bees will always cluster up inside and into the passages of the feeder, if wintered in the cellar.

After carrying the hives out-of-doors in spring, and looking them over, removing the dead bees and clippings of comb from the bottom-board, rearranging the brood-nest, etc., if the number of frames left with the two division-boards are not as wide as the feeder, one or more division-boards, as the case may be, to make the whole wide enough, are placed close up to the side ones, the feeder placed on and quilts and other packing material tucked snugly around the whole. This done, the hives will not need looking after for two or three weeks, if it is known the queens are right, which should be one of the first things to observe in overhauling the hives.

If queenless colonies are found, no delay should be made in sending to some bee-keeper farther South, and procure a laying queen and introduce at once, with the usual precautions. But usually there is not much trouble in having a queenless colony accept a queen in early spring.

#### ROBBING IN THE SPRING.

One should be on his guard against robbing in spring. Prevention is much easier than cure. There is generally the most trouble from robbing early in spring before the blossoms have put out very much, and the bees have little to do but to "nose around" and kick up a bobby with their neighbors. Generally, if the entrances are closed so as to admit only two or three bees at a time, and kept so from the time they are first put on the stands, till blossoms appear quite freely, and the bees find something to do, most colonies will defend themselves against intruders, till blossoms in field and forest call attention elsewhere.

Livermore Falls, Maine.

The Northern Illinois Bee-Keepers' Association, will hold its fall meeting at Harlem, Ill., on Aug. 10, 1890.

D. A. FULLER, Sec.

## MINNESOTA.

### Our Winged Servants and the Basswood.

Written for the American Bee Journal

BY BRITANIA J. LIVINGSTON.

On page 310 I wrote about our early honey-flow. After May 2, the weather changed—cold rains with high winds set in, and, by June 1, the bees had consumed all the extra stores, and could barely live. I fed mine at times, all through June up to the 25th.

The country is yellow with mustard—the result of flax-culture for the past three years, but, until the past week, there was but little chance for the bees to leave the hives, as it rained so much. Four days the past week the mercury has stood at 90° and 95° above zero. It has not rained until to-day, and our winged servants have been busy and happy.

I wrote before that my 8 colonies came through the winter finely. My husband bought a "barrel of bees" of a neighbor in April, paying \$4.00 for it. That made 9 colonies, spring count. That "early honey-flow" gave them such a start that I now have 20 colonies. Three of them are after-swarms, but all have now fine laying queens from my best yellow colony.

The first swarm was cast on May 27. Spring opened so fair I thought that I would amuse myself by a little experiment at queen-rearing. On May 12 I had a frame with ten fine queen-cells ready to hatch—but, alas, the weather was so unfavorable that I did not dare to make nuclei, as I had no bees to sacrifice on my experiments, and so I closed the hive with a sigh, and trusted to the "survival of the fittest" to mother the experimental hive. She proved a beauty—the yellowest and largest queen I have yet seen. She commenced laying on May 25, which we think is doing well for Minnesota. I am only three miles from the south line of this State. So my advantages are more nearly like those of Iowa, for bee-culture, I suppose, than Minnesota.

#### WORMS ON THE BASSWOOD.

Some correspondents reported the worms destroying the basswood at Alexandria last year. Now they are reported at Mankato. When I read that they were so near, I went out to look over our grove. That was June 1, and I could find one here and there, munching away on a very large basswood leaf.

We have had so much rain that vegetation is very rank. It does one's eyes good to see the buds on our basswood trees—they are so thickly bud-

ded, and just beginning to open on a few of the trees.

Our country is prairie, with a narrow belt of timber along the lakes, running three miles north of this place, and as far south. We are nestled down—the bees and I—on the east side of the trees. If we do not prosper here in our new venture, it will not be Nature's fault. She has done her part.

Centre Chain, Minn., June 29, 1890.

## A REVIEW.

### Past Experiences and Present Prospects for a Crop.

Written for the Michigan Farmer

BY GEO. E. HILTON.

Taking into consideration the open winter, the season thus far in Michigan, and in fact nearly all over the United States, has been discouraging. The open winter induced breeding, and a consequent unusual consumption of stores. This condition kept the intestines of the bees constantly loaded so that were they confined to the hive a few days they suffered more than they ordinarily would in as many weeks. This accounts for so many colonies dying after spring had fairly set in.

Fruit bloom was abundant, and lasted a long time, but the atmospheric conditions were not favorable to the secretion of nectar; then we have lost millions of bees at a time when we can ill afford to, by the ignorant, yes, and malicious spraying of the trees while in full bloom. Of course the intelligent fruit-grower knows it does no good to spray the trees until about the time the bloom is falling, and at a time when the bees have fulfilled the mission the Creator intended for them. I know of no other way to educate the ignorant and malicious than to demand legislation for the protection of our property.

I notice some of our supervisors and boards of review have no conscientious scruples about levying even an enormous tax upon us. I paid taxes on an assessment of \$950 on 100 colonies the past season, and hold the receipts in proof. Are we then not entitled to protection? I say yes, and shall expect at our next State convention to see measures taken to secure it.

Since fruit bloom I never saw such a dearth of nectar. Vegetation seemed to suspend operations, and now at this writing, June 20, the raspberry, blackberry and white clover are all upon us at once with only half as many bees as a rule in the hives as there should be, and would otherwise have been to gather the harvest. Many colonies have starved or dwindled during the

the latter part of May and the first of June. In some parts of Iowa, Illinois, Ohio and Kentucky whole apiaries have been swept away by devastating floods. New York and adjoining States have suffered heavy losses from cellar wintering, and on the whole a dark cloud covers the horizon of the bee-keeper.

But do not be discouraged; it has a silver lining. The markets have not been so denuded in years; the demand for honey is upon us before we have it gathered; quick sales at good prices are a stimulus to do our best. Let us double up our sealed brood and make one good colony from two medium ones. When they swarm give the brood to weak colonies having a queen, and before the season is half gone we will have our colonies strong, and a fair crop of honey, with but little outlay for hives and fixtures. Never mind the increase; get the honey first, then if you must have increase, make it later. I know this is not a policy stand-point for a supply dealer, but I believe it will bring the greatest good to the greatest number. So let us trust in God, friends, and keep our dishes right side up, and He may yet send us such a flow of honey that we will be put to our wits' end to care for it.

Fremont, Mich.

## SWARMING.

### Preparing the Hives, Hiving the Swarms, etc.

*Written for the Prairie Farmer*

BY MRS. L. HARRISON.

The exact time for the issuing of a swarm cannot be determined with certainty. If on the morning of a still warm day, when honey is coming in freely, few bees are seen to leave the hive. When bees from other hives are freely flying, a swarm may confidently be expected; but let the weather suddenly change, all preparations for swarming may suddenly cease, even after their haversacks are packed for their journey.

Everything should be in readiness for the hiving of swarms, and soon as they are clustered. Hives should be clean, and free from disagreeable odors, and be cool; if the hive has been setting in the sun, and very hot, bees may leave it. The old custom of washing out the hive with salt water and apple leaves may not be necessary, but the bees no doubt enjoyed the delicious freshness, and coolness.

When I hive a swarm, although the hive may be clean, I prefer to dash in a bucket of cool water, to rinse out

dust that may have accumulated, and give it an air of freshness. At one time, I had a swarm repeatedly leave its hive, day after day, until it grew monotonous; the hive was clean, and as I supposed all right, but leave it they would. I grew desperate, and hived them in another hive, and they remained.

The thought struck me that I had better see why those bees swarmed out. The hive in question had never been used before, and the flight entrance extending across the front of the hive was so small that the bees could barely enter, and the bees swarmed out rather than smother. They did not want to leave, but clustered day after day. Those who hive their swarms in clean, cool hives, with sufficient ventilation, and protect them from the rays of the sun, will have few tales to tell of swarms absconding; bees know when they are well treated, and appreciate it.

### CONVENIENCES FOR HIVING.

Bees will cluster on a limb of a tree, which can be either cut or sawed off, carried to a hive and the bees shook off, which they will enter. But it is not always poetry like this; there are other contingencies that we must be prepared to meet, like swarms clustering in the tops of high trees, or on their trunks where they cannot be dislodged, on fences, grape stakes, etc. Sometimes the cost of hiving is more than the swarm is worth, provided there are no conveniences at hand, to lighten the labor.

Mr. Manum, of Vermont, has my thanks, and should have those of all women, for his contrivance for hiving swarms. It consists of a wire basket attached to a long pole, which is light and convenient. By standing on a chair, I have been able to reach swarms with it, that I could not possibly have saved without the aid of ladders. By placing the basket under the cluster, and giving it a sudden jar, the bees fall into it. As the queen is generally on the outside of it, many times she will be secured, and by standing the basket near, the rest soon follow. A peach basket fitted on the end of a pole, would many times prove a blessing.

When many bees are kept, low-growing trees, like peach and May cherries, are a desideratum. Large forest trees are not desirable. I know a farmer who keeps his bees near a large oak, and his children told me that they had hard work to get the bees down from it, and now when they see a swarm issuing, they throw water to wet their wings so they cannot fly so high.

Peoria, Ills.

## CALIFORNIA.

### Honey-Producing Plants and Trees in the Sierras.

*Written for the California Rural Press*  
BY S. L. WATKINS.

Nowhere, perhaps, in the world is there a greater diversity of honey-producing plants and trees than in the Sierra Nevada mountains. Here thousands of bee-flowers bloom in lavish abundance ten months in the year, thus giving the bees, as it were, almost a perpetual feast.

Long after the bloom of the valleys and foot-hills have ended, the wild bees of the mountains rove and revel through these virgin wildernesses, which furnish a floral chain of successive bloom. The inviting openness of the Sierra woods is one of their most distinguishing characteristics; here and there the woods are diversified with countless garden openings or wild meadows, many of which are perfect paradises for bee-keepers.

A description of Pea-Vine Valley, which I visited in 1887, will not come amiss here:

After traveling several hours through a heavily timbered section of country, the valley itself suddenly burst on our view like a scene of enchantment; on either side lofty mountains arose, inclosing it like a frame—and what a splendid frame they compose, those colossal mountains in their rich variety of form and coloring—here shining out like molten silver, there changing to a dark bronze, covered lower down with various shades of green; and with the crimson and purple and violet, and bright yellow, dazzling white, and azure, of the millions of wild roses, ceanothus, rhododendrons, flowering dogwood, and other flowering plants, from among which arose the stately sugar-pines, fully 200 feet in height, with their majestic green turbans towering like Sultan's heads above the luxuriance of the surrounding forest.

Numerous wild bees hummed and quivered around the scented blossoms, imparting a cheerfulness to the wild scene. Humming-birds, resplendent in their gorgeous colors, shot through the air like animated fragments of a prism. The air was spiced with the pungent odor of a thousand aromatic shrubs and plants, and seemed to exhilarate and give new energy to all who breathed this perfumed air.

Every tree, branch and shrub was a perfect mass of bloom and blossom, and in the clear, elastic atmosphere was fairly sparkling in its own vivid glorious coloring. Here we found growing in tropical luxuriance and beauty, thousands and millions of



cardinal flowers, snowdrops, lilies, lupines, larkspurs, verbenas, penny-royal, fireweed, virgin's bower, honeysuckle, columbine, California poppy, Indian cress, jewel weed, wild buckwheat, collinsia, wild mustard, Mexican clover, snow-plants and hundreds of less conspicuous honey-plants.

A small, silvery stream wended its way through the valley; it was margined with a thickset growth of black alders, willows, maples, wild plum and cherry, buckthorn, and several different varieties of dogwood; while occasionally here and there arose the surpassingly beautiful madrona tree. Higher up the valley we found a small lava field destitute of trees and shrubs, but clothed with a carpet of golden compositae clover, and several different varieties of mint.

At the base of the mountain we found growing chestnut oak, live oak, California lilac, manzanita, chaemeiss, adenostoma, beds of dwarf phlox, hulsea, potentilla, and golden-rod; while looming far overhead were groves of arrowy silver firs and incense cedars, rich in both pollen and honey-dew.

This valley would be a very paradise for bee-keepers, but it is no exception; there are thousands of others like it in the upper Sierras, which are as yet almost untouched, save by wild bees. From 4,000 to 5,000 feet elevation is the grand bee-zone of the Sierras. The climate at this elevation admits of the making of permanent homes, for here are successfully grown the best of apples and pears. Peaches, plums, cherries, grapes, and numerous small fruits thrive well. Melons, pumpkins, tomatoes, potatoes, corn, etc., grow to perfection.

#### ROTATION OF CALIFORNIA BLOOM.

The black alder is the first honey and pollen producing tree of any importance in early spring. In our section it generally commences blooming about the first of January, and furnishes a profusion of bloom for about two weeks.

The various species of willows next make their appearance, and furnish an unlimited quantity of pollen for brood-rearing. Some seasons, willows yield considerable honey.

Manzanitas begin blooming about the first of February. They are excellent honey-yielders, and if we had the number of bees in the hives that we have about the first of June, to work on the manzanita bloom, we should get considerable honey from that source. Chaparral, in certain seasons, yields considerable honey and pollen. It blooms at about the same time that the manzanita does. Possibly if it bloomed before or after the manzanita, the bees would pay more attention to it.

Wild plum and cherry commence blooming about the first of April, but the bloom is of such short duration that I am inclined to believe that they do not get much honey from it.

The various species of maples commence blooming about the middle of April, and bees reap a rich harvest from this source. The bloom lasts for about two weeks.

Dogwood commences blooming about the same time, but it is not much of a honey-yielder.

California lilac begins blooming the latter part of April, and furnishes a vast profusion of bloom. The honey gathered from this plant is of an excellent quality and of a sparkling clearness. California lilac is one of the most important honey-yielders of the Sierras. The bloom generally lasts about three weeks.

Wild coffee yields considerable honey; it commences blooming about the first of May and blooms about six weeks. The honey from this source is dark and of inferior quality.

By the middle of May, plant-life has fairly reached its height; then the upland meadows are painted with the various colored blooms of the larkspur, melilotus, collinsia, verbenas, lilies, lupines, clover, monardella, wallflowers, Indian cress, etc., all of which are excellent honey-plants. This ocean of bloom of the various wild-flowers lasts about a month.

About the middle of May the folocio (*Chamaebatia foliolosa*), a little shrub with a fern-shaped leaf and a little white blossom, somewhat resembling the strawberry blossom, begins to bloom. It is a splendid honey-plant, and yields large quantities of honey every season.

The wild snow-drop begins to bloom about the first of June, and sends the bees out in large numbers early in the morning; it continues to bloom for over a month.

The wild holly and California buckeye furnish considerable honey in certain seasons. One season I obtained almost 50 pounds to the colony, of holly honey.

In July and August, the various species of mints keep the bees busy the entire day, and furnish enough honey to keep brood-rearing going on lively.

In September, a species of hartshorn furnishes considerable honey. The different species of golden-rod commence blooming in September, and furnish a profusion of bloom until frost comes.

In October, the incense-cedar furnishes vast quantities of honey, and keeps the bees roaring as if they were robbing instead of honey-gathering. The honey gathered from this source is splendid; it has a greater density than any sage honey, and it never

candies. When bees are gathering this honey, they cap the cells with wax of a snowy whiteness, which gives the honey a very beautiful appearance. It is impossible to extract this kind of honey, as the density is so great that the combs would be torn to pieces before it would come out. I have had colonies of hybrid bees that stored 150 pounds of comb honey in six weeks, all gathered from this source.

The bee-pastures of the Sierras are better; all things considered, than those of the southern portion of California. The dry seasons do not have as much effect on the bloom here as there; we never have occasion to feed bees; they always gather sufficient to winter on.

Grizzly Flats, Calif.

#### CONVENTION DIRECTORY.

1890. Time and place of meeting.

- July 17.—Carolina, at Charlotte, N. C.  
N. P. Lyles, Sec., Derita N. C.  
Aug. 19.—Northern Illinois, at Harlem, Ills.  
D. A. Fuller, Sec., Cherry Valley, Ills.  
Aug. 29.—Haldimand, at South Cayuga, Ont.  
E. C. Campbell, Sec., Cayuga, Ont.  
Sept. 10.—Ionia County, at Ionia, Mich.  
H. Smith, Sec., Ionia, Mich.  
Oct. 29-31.—International American, at Keokuk, Ia.  
C. P. Dadant, Sec., Hamilton, Ills.  
Oct.—Missouri State, at Mexico, Mo.  
J. W. Rouse, Sec., Santa Fe, Mo.

In order to have this table complete, Secretaries are requested to forward full particulars of the time and the place of each future meeting.—THE EDITOR.

#### International Bee-Association.

PRESIDENT—Hon. R. L. Taylor, Lapeer, Mich.  
SECRETARY—C. P. Dadant, Hamilton, Ills.

#### National Bee-Keepers' Union.

PRESIDENT—James Heddon, Dowagiac, Mich.  
SEC'Y. AND MANAGER—T. G. Newman, Chicago.

#### SELECTIONS FROM OUR LETTER BOX

##### Swarming Late—Storing Honey.

Bees are in good condition here this year, but swarming is late. I started with one colony last year, and this year I bought 2 more—now I have 7 strong colonies, some of which are storing honey, and some are not. I had 2 swarms on June 24.

BERT VIAGER.

Moline, Ills., June 27, 1890.

##### Poor Season in Washington.

I have lost 8 colonies of bees this winter, and those left have not swarmed yet. They are two months later this year than last year. Too much rain is the trouble, I think. After 25 years of work among the bees, I feel somewhat discouraged, but I will not give it up yet. I am glad the editor reminded me of Rev. L. L. Langstroth. I sent him a letter to-day. Wake up, bee-keepers, in this important matter.

JOHN BOERSTLER.

Vashon, Wash., June 25, 1890.

**Colonies Strong in Bees.**

Bees have wintered well here both indoors and out. The colonies are the strongest I have ever seen them. Drones were flying on May 1, and bees commenced to swarm on May 20. It is a month, or more, earlier than usual.

J. M. CARRITT.

Ute, Iowa, June 28, 1890.

**Very Little Honey Gathered.**

My bees are doing nothing as yet. I have some colonies not as good now as when I took them out of the cellar. We have had about a week of nice, warm, dry weather, and white clover is in full bloom, but very little honey is gathered. Most of my fellow bee-keepers are in the same fix, so far as I have talked with them. This is the fourth season that has been almost a failure.

DAVID H. WRIGHT.

Madison, Wis., June 30, 1890.

**Large Crop—Alfalfa Clover.**

The honey crop here will be large. Since the introduction of alfalfa clover here, bees do well. I fear the market will be overstocked. This dry climate is good for fine white comb honey.

H. E. ENGLISH.

Greeley, Colo.

**No Honey from White Clover.**

The honey crop will be a failure here. White clover furnished no honey, and if the fall flowers do no better, bees will not get enough to winter on. The cause is too much rain.

L. HIGBARGER.

Leaf River, Ills., July 1, 1890.

**Large Honey Crop Expected.**

I shall look for the largest crop of white clover honey that I ever obtained, if the weather continues favorable, as my bees have begun storing in the sections, and there has not been so much clover bloom here for five or six years as there is now; but my bees are a little behind in breeding up, owing to the excessive cold rains between fruit-bloom and the beginning of the clover bloom.

A. WORTMAN.

Seaford, Ind., June 16, 1890.

**Colonies Weak and Starving.**

Bees in this part of the world are very weak. We have had a very wet and cold spring, and until within the last few days bees have been starving, or about so. I have been feeding for a long time. I have about 240 colonies, and am in hopes of getting some honey after a while.

W. J. PICKARD.

Richland Center, Wis., July 1, 1890.

**Hybrid Clover.**

FRIEND NEWMAN:—Enclosed you will find some clover, which I plucked along the roadside to-day. As you will see (if not too badly wilted) it is a cross between the red and white clover; the stalk growing and stooing about as rank as the red clover, while the blossom, which has a red tinge, resembles the white clover. This must have been crossed by the bees, while gathering honey and pollen during the previous year from the red and white clover. If such clover seed could be gotten, I think that it would be the coming clover for bee-men, if not for stock-feeders, as it produces about as much fodder as the red clover, and at the same time producing a smaller blossom, resembling that of the

white clover, from which the honey-bees no doubt would gather great stores of honey. Now, what shall we name this new variety of clover? Can you give it a suitable name? Since writing my letter on page 332, it has been very cold and windy here, but at present it has changed for the better. White clover is in full bloom, and the bees are working with full force.

GEO. FREY.

Geneseo, Ills., June 2, 1890.

[Alsike clover (*Trifolium repens*) is a hybrid between the red and white clovers, possessing qualities common to both, and the flowers are a distinct light pink. May not the flowers you sent be Alsike clover? They appear much like it, though wilted and dried. This letter would have appeared several weeks ago, but was mislaid during the rush of June.—Ed.]

**Keeping Bees for Profit.**

I handle bees for recreation and the profit I derive from them. I obtained 1,500 pounds from 11 colonies last year. I have at present 20 colonies in excellent condition. They are now storing honey very rapidly from basswood. It is very plentiful in my neighborhood. It, white clover and the fall asters are my staple honey-plants. Golden-rod yields honey here.

R. B. SCHOFIELD, M. D.

Newark, Mo., June 24, 1890.

**Bees have been Nearly Starving.**

Bees are doing well now in this vicinity, but they have been on the border land of starvation—brood-rearing, from lack of stimulative feeding, had ceased. The cold, wet weather is what gave us, who did not keep the queen busy, the set-back. There is but little swarming yet.

GEORGE SPITLER.

Mosiertown, Pa., June 29, 1890.

**Bees Doing Splendidly.**

I am a beginner in the bee-business. I started with 13 colonies the past spring, and have 21 now; they are doing splendidly. I have seen the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL, and the first dollars' worth of honey I have sold goes to pay for it for a year, for I need it badly.

S. A. DAVENPORT.

Roseville, Ills., July 1, 1890.

**Our Clubbing List.**—We have now made arrangements with publishers of metropolitan Weekly Newspapers, by which we can club them at the very low prices quoted in the **LAST** column, without premiums. The regular price of both is given in the first column. One year's subscription for this JOURNAL must be sent with each order for another paper:

	Price of both.	Club.
Chicago Inter-Ocean.....	\$2.00	\$1.75
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Chicago Herald.....	2.00	1.75
Philadelphia Practical Farmer....	2.00	1.75
New York World.....	2.00	1.75
Toledo Blade.....	2.00	1.75
The Lever (Temperance).....	2.00	1.75

Clubs for anything in our Premium List may be for either of our JOURNALS, or for any number of either or both of them.

**HONEY AND BEESWAX MARKET.**

NEW YORK, June 5.—There is no comb honey on the market, but a small stock of basswood extracted and California; new Southern extracted is arriving, but the quality is mostly inferior. We quote: Extracted basswood and California, 7c; Southern, 65¢@70¢ per gallon. Beeswax, scarce at 26¢@28¢.

HILDRETH BROS. &amp; SEGELKEN.

28-30 West Broadway.

CHICAGO, June 4.—Demand continues good for strictly white clover honey, and our receipts are being taken as fast as they arrive. What little stock we have, consists of buckwheat in 1 and 2-lb. sections, which is dull and slow sale. We quote: White clover 1-lbs., 12½¢@13½¢; buckwheat, 7¢@9¢. Beeswax very scarce at 25¢@26¢ for bright, and 23¢@24¢ for dark.

S. T. FISH &amp; CO., 189 S. Water St.

KANSAS CITY, June 19.—We received today the first shipment of new comb honey from Independence, Mo.—nice white 1-pound sections, put up in handsome white crates holding 12 sections each. It sells at 15¢@16¢ per pound. Extracted, white, 5¢@6¢; dark, 5¢. Beeswax, 25¢.

CLEMONS, CLOON &amp; CO.,

Cor. 4th and Walnut Sts.

CHICAGO, June 5.—Demand is now very light for comb honey, and will be for the ensuing two months. There is not much on the market, and very little of it is in desirable shape for the retail trade, being in supers and just as removed from the hive. Best brings 13¢@14¢, and off-grades about 10¢. Extracted, 6¢@8¢. Beeswax, yellow, 27¢@28¢.

R. A. BURNETT, 161 S. Water St.

MILWAUKEE, June 2.—The market for honey is in a fair condition. The old stock is getting out of sight, and values are sustained on choice qualities. We quote: Choice white 1-lb. sections, 13¢@14¢; medium 1-lbs., 11¢@12¢; dark 1-lbs., 9¢@10¢; 2-lbs., normal. Extracted, in barrels and half barrels, white, 7¢@8¢; dark, 6¢@8½¢. Beeswax, 26¢@30¢.

A. V. BISHOP, 142 W. Water St.

DETROIT, June 3.—Best white comb honey, 13¢@14¢; other grades, 10¢@13¢. Extracted, slow demand at 7¢@8¢. Beeswax, 27¢@28¢.

M. H. HUNT, Bell Branch, Mich.

KANSAS CITY, June 13.—Market cleaned up on old comb and extracted, and new crop of comb arriving. We quote: White 1-lbs., 15¢; dark, 11¢@12¢; white 2-lbs., 12¢@13¢; dark, 10¢@11¢. Extracted, white, 6¢@7¢; dark, 5¢.

HAMBLIN &amp; BEARSS, 514 Walnut St.

BOSTON, June 19.—Fancy 1-lbs., 16¢; 2-lbs., 15¢. Extracted, 8¢@9¢. Honey sales are very slow. We have recently received a shipment from Michigan, of very fine stock, which is an ample supply for us for the summer.

BLAKE &amp; RIPLEY, 57 Chatham Street.

CINCINNATI, June 10.—Demand for comb honey is slow, and prices nominal. There is but little on the market. Extracted honey is in good demand at 5¢@8¢, according to quality. We bought to-day the first 4,000 pounds of new extracted clover honey.

Beeswax is in good demand at 24¢@28¢, for good to choice yellow. C. F. MUTH & SON, Corner Freeman & Central Aves.

**Bee-Keeping for Profit, by Dr.**

G. L. Tinker, is a new 50-page pamphlet, which details fully the author's new system of bee-management in producing comb and extracted honey, and the construction of the hive best adapted to it—his "Nonpareil." The book can be had at this office for 25¢.

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Of this Journal who write to any of our advertisers, either in ordering, or asking about the Goods offered, will please state that they saw the Advertisement in this paper.





ALFRED H. NEWMAN,  
BUSINESS MANAGER.

## Business Notices.

Subscribers who do not receive their papers promptly, should notify us at once.

Money in Potatoes, by Mr. Joseph Greiner. Price, 25 cents, postpaid. For sale at this office.

Red Labels are nice for Pails which hold from 1 to 10 lbs. of honey. Price \$1.00 per hundred, with name and address printed. Sample free.

Calvert's No. 1 Phenol, mentioned in *Cheshire's* Pamphlet on pages 16 and 17, as a cure for foul brood, can be procured at this office at 25 cents per ounce, by express.

Send us two new subscriptions, with \$2.00, and we will present you with a "Globe" Bee-Veil for your trouble. (See the fuller notice in the advertising columns.)

The date on the wrapper-label of this paper indicates the end of the month to which you have paid. If that is past, please send us a dollar to advance that date another year.

Please send us the names of your neighbors who keep bees, and we will send them sample copies of the BEE JOURNAL. Then please call upon them and get them to subscribe with you.

Any of the Political Dollar Weekly Newspapers will be clubbed with our JOURNAL at \$1.85 for the two; or with both our HOME JOURNAL and BEE JOURNAL for \$2.50 for all three papers.

As there is another firm of "Newman & Son" in this city, our letters sometimes get mixed. Please write *American Bee Journal* on the corner of your envelopes to save confusion and delay.

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When talking about Bees to your friend or neighbor, you will oblige us by commending the BEE JOURNAL to him, and taking his subscription to end with your renewal. For this work we will present you with a copy of the Convention Hand Book, by mail, postpaid. It sells at 50 cents.

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## CATARRH.

CATARRHAL DEAFNESS—HAY FEVER.

A New Home Treatment.

Sufferers are not generally aware that these diseases are contagious, or that they are due to the presence of living parasites in the lining membrane of the nose and eustachian tubes. Microscopic research, however, has proved this to be a fact, and the result of this discovery is that a simple remedy has been formulated whereby catarrh, catarrhal deafness and hay fever are permanently cured in from one to three simple applications made at home by the patient once in two weeks.

N. B.—This treatment is not a snuff or an ointment; both have been discarded by reputable physicians as injurious. A pamphlet explaining this new treatment is sent free on receipt of stamp to pay postage, by A. H. Dixon & Son, 337 and 339 West King Street, Toronto, Canada.—*Christian Advocate*.

Sufferers from Catarrhal troubles should carefully read the above.  
50E26t 1mly.

## Chapman Honey-Plant Seed.

This plant has been commended by some of the most experienced bee keepers in America, as being "a most valuable acquisition to the list of bee-forage plants." The seed may be scattered in waste places, or it may be sown in drills or hills like onion seed. We can furnish the seed, post-paid, at the following prices: Single ounce, 40 cents; 4 ounces, \$1.00; 10 ounces, \$2.00; or one pound for \$3.00.

Quick Work.—I received the Globe Bee-Veil to-day, and I am well pleased with it. I am also very much pleased with the quick delivery of goods. I received them in two days and a half after the money was sent.—Bert Viager, Moline, Ills.

The next meeting of the Carolina Bee-Keepers' Association will be held in Charlotte, N. C., on Thursday, July 17, 1890. N. F. LYLES, Sec.

I STILL have on hand about 20,000 strictly choice, No. 1, smooth, white, SECTIONS. Size, 4x5 and 5x6x1 15-16—open top and bottom. Price, \$2.00 per crate—\$3.75 per 1,000. GEO. M. TERRELL, Jerseyville, Ills. 28A1t

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